distribution of electiricity is the responsibility of the State Governments. On July 11, 2001 the Ministry of Power has circulated a Captive Power Policy prepared in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority, to all the State Governments and Union Territories which recommends purchase of power by State Utilities from spare capacity in captive power plants. The policy suggests that State Utilities could purchase power from captive power plants at the tariffs which may be fixed after mutual discussion and could be based on pooled variable charge of thermal power station operating in the State Electricity Board (SEB) plus some percentage of the pooled variable charges as incentive. Tariff could also be based on the highest variable cost in the system or actual variable cost of CPP, whichever is lower and some percentage of the variable cost as an incentive. Under the said policy, third party sale of power is also permissible subject to approval of the concerned SEB.

In the conference of the State Power Ministers held at New Delhi on 5th August, 2002, a strategy was evolved to tackle the power demand during the then prevailing drought situation. This strategy also includes, *inter-alia,* utilization of spare capacity of captive power plants.

Power plants for U.P.

2277. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new power plant has been set up in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of such power plants proposed to be set up during 2003-04 in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) Two units of Unchahar TPS Extension (2x210MW) in Central Sector in 1999 and Unit 4(110 MW) of TandaTPS in State Sector in February, 1998, which has later been taken over by NTPC, have been commissioned in Uttar Pradesh.

Rihand STPS St. II (2x500 MW) in Central Sector and ParichhaTPS Extension (2x210 MW) in State Sector are under execution and scheduled for commissioning in the Tenth Plan.

No power plant is scheduled to be commissioned in Uttar Pradesh in 2003-04.

Availability of power by Bihar

†2278. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of power availability in Bihar;

(b) the extent of help provided by Government during the last three years for rural electrification; and

(c) the future plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) During February, 2003, the power supply position in the State of Bihar was as under:

Peak (MW)		Energy (MU)	
Peak Demand	926	Requirement	510
Peak Met	748	Availability	414
Shortage	178	Shortage	96
% Shortage	19.2	% Shortage	18.8

(b) Govenrment of India have made the following fund allocation for the State of Bihar to carry out rural electrification works during the last three years:

i. Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)

Year	Allocation
2000-01	Rs. 37.67 Crores including Jharkhand State
2000-02	Rs. 37.67 Crores including Jharkhand State
2002-03	Rs. 68.00 Crores Bihar State exclusively